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receptive and the productive in interesting and varied conversation, and so harmonious a blending of grammar and every-day language, that the book is sure to accomplish its object. It stands midway between the two other books already cited, and is adapted especially for use in large classes where the aim is to master quickly a large amount of available, every-day language, spoken and written, and to acquire facility in rapid reading.

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FRENCH GRAMMAR.

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES.

SIRS:—To a class commencing French and using 'Petites Causeries' one always teaches certain principles of French Grammar, but what has hitherto been accomplished with difficulty and at a great expense of time and strength, can now be satisfactorily achieved by using the 'Premières Leçons'* in connection with 'Petites Causeries.' The plan of this little book seems to me admirable; one accustomed to use the 'Natural Method' will find here not only an efficient guide, but a practical support. The table of English words given to represent the elementary French sounds is well adapted to its purpose; the affirmative, negative and interrogative forms of the verb are introduced in a way to help a scholar without confusing him; he is led into a knowledge of the four conjunctions so gradually that the well-arranged table of irregular verbs has no terrors for him. The bit of French at the beginning of each lesson, from which so much grammar is developed, may be also used for dictation, for memorizing and always for conversation.

ANNIE T. SMITH.
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BRIEF MENTION.

A valuable addition has been made by Macmillan & Co. (London, New York) to the general stock of books for the use of practical teachers, in 'French Dialogues, A Systematic Introduction to the Grammar and Idiom of Spoken French' by Johan Storm, Professor of Romance Philology in the University of Christiania. Intermediate course: Authorised English Edition by Geo. Macdonald of Balliol College, Oxford. The French and English texts are arranged in parallel columns on the same page, the English equivalent being given on the right. Many American instructors of French are familiar with this work as adapted to some European language outside of English; the original Norwegian edition (also the second edition in this language), together with the Danish and Swedish, was published in 1887; the German and the Dutch followed in 1888; the second Danish and the Finnish in 1889; the second Swedish and Dutch, in 1891 and 1892 respectively. We are told in the English editor's preface that "the French text and the footnotes include the author's latest additions and improvements." This text represents the combined judgment of practical teachers, native French and Norse, among the former of whom the name of Paul Passy is conspicuous, who revised the proofs and made useful suggestions; and the belief is expressed that every precaution has been taken to make the work as correct and idiomatic as possible. The English part, too, is the result of consultation with Fellows of Balliol and Merton Colleges, with a native French and an English teacher of French.—The author gives the purpose of his work in the following words:

"My book is not meant for mere beginners . . . It is . . intended in the first instance for advanced pupils, in Norway for boys at the gymnasium, young students and the general public. . . . The great majority of the dialogues have been composed by myself. The material has been accumulated during a lengthened period, partly by direct observation and partly from literature, especially plays."

Holding these points in view, the treatise is to be especially recommended for its sound method and the abundance and variety of material presented. (8vo, 218 pp. Price $1.10.)

D. C. Heath & Co. have added to their *Modern Language Series* a new set of 'Exercises in French Composition.' These are due to Angusta C. Kimball and are based on Daudet's story 'la Belle Nivernaise.' They are intended for pupils in their third or fourth year of study and, consequently, present more difficulties than those which have appeared previously in this series. 24 pp., 12 cts.

**Premierès Leçons de Grammaire*, Par Marie-Louise Sauveur et Susan C. Lougee. New York: F. W. Christern, 1892. 12mo, pp. 118.